

# PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY



To:  
OHTSUKA, Yasunori

7th FL., SHUWA KIOICHO PARK  
BLDG., 3-6, KIOICHO, CHIYODA-KU,  
Tokyo 1020094 Japan

## PCT

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY  
(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

Date of mailing (day/month/year)	<b>28.06.2005</b>
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Applicant's or agent's file reference  
**P205-0115WO**

**FOR FURTHER ACTION**

See paragraph 2 below

International application No.  
**PCT/JP2005/007282**

International filing date (day/month/year)  
**08.04.2005**

Priority date (day/month/year)  
**19.04.2004**

International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC  
**Int.Cl.<sup>7</sup> G06F13/00, 3/12**

Applicant  
**CANON KABUSHIKI KAISHA**

**1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:**

- ☒ Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- ☐ Box No. II Priority
- ☐ Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- ☐ Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- ☒ Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- ☐ Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- ☐ Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- ☐ Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

**2. FURTHER ACTION**

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

**3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.**

Date of completion of this opinion	<b>14.06.2005</b>
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Name and mailing address of the ISA/JP

**Japan Patent Office**

3-4-3, Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8915, Japan

Authorized officer

**Yoshiharu Kobayashi**

Telephone No. +81-3-3581-1101 Ext. 3565

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WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2005/007282

Box No. I      Basis of the opinion

1. With regard to the **language**, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language \_\_\_\_\_, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b)).

2. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:

a. type of material

- ☐ a sequence listing  
☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing

b. format of material

- ☐ in written format  
☐ in computer readable form

c. time of filing/furnishing

- ☐ contained in the international application as filed.  
☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.  
☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.

3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.

4. Additional comments:

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.

PCT/JP2005/007282

**Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

**1. Statement**

Novelty (N)	Claims	1-11	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims		YES
	Claims	1-11	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-11	YES
	Claims		NO

**2. Citations and explanations**

Document 1: JP 2003-006133 A (CANON KABUSHIKI KAISHA)

10.01.2003, column 79-92

& US 2002/0156947 A1, columns 97-114

Document 2: JP 2004-078359 A (NIIGATA CANOTECH KABUSIKI KAISHA)

11.03.2004, column 80, Fig 14 (Family: none)

Document 3: JP 2000-181656 A (FUJII XEROX KABUSIKI KAISHA)

30.06.2000, column 3 (Family: none)

The proxy server disclosed in Document 1 can act as an intermediary between the printer, which can handle the SNMP protocol but can't handle UPnP protocol, and the client PC.

The print server disclosed in Document 2 can show a multifunctional device as two or more devices corresponding to each function.

The gateway disclosed in Document 3 can convert a protocol, when the protocols of I/O devices (printer, scanner, and so on) and clients differ.

All of the documents listed above are concerned with the device management system and the skilled person in the art would easily combine the feature disclosed in Document 1, 2 and 3.

Thus, the subject matter of claim 1, 4, 5, 7, 9, 10, 11 has no inventive steps over Document 1 and 2, and the subject matter of claim 2, 3 has no inventive steps over Document 1, 2 and 3.

The exclusion method disclosed in claim 6 isn't disclosed in above documents, but it would be trivial for the skilled person in the art to prevent duplicate storing.

The responding method based on printer languages disclosed in claim 8 isn't disclosed clearly in above documents, but the printer language is the one of the most important functions of printers and the skilled person in the art could easily select which kind of function to use.

Thus, the subject matter of claim 6 and 8 has no inventive steps.